AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended): A fan-securing device ~~for securing~~ that secures a fan to a heat transfer device ~~that allows for the~~ and enables rapid removal of the fan without disturbing a remainder of the heat transfer device, said fan-securing device comprising:

a base;

a fastener for ~~releasably~~ releaseably securing said base to said heat transfer device; ~~and~~ compression tabs for securing said fan to said base;

a spring; and

a recessed receiver member in said base for receiving said spring directly under the fan for aiding in discharge.

2. (Original): The fan-securing device of claim 1, wherein said heat transfer device is a heat sink.

3. (Original): The fan-securing device of claim 1, wherein said base is made of plastic.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended): The fan-securing device of ~~claim 4~~ claim 1, further comprising:

a spring retaining clip on a side of said recessed receiver member for retaining said spring in said recessed receiver member.

6. (Original): The fan-securing device of claim 1, further comprising:

a wire guard for protecting fan wires from fan blades and sharp fin edges, said guard being integrally connected to said base.

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7. (Original): The fan-securing device of claim 5, wherein said wire guard comprises:

compression legs for securing said wires; and

tabs for releasing said compression legs.

8. (Currently amended): The fan-securing device of claim 1, wherein said fastener comprises ~~a hole through which~~ a screw that engages a corresponding hole in said fan-securing device and secures said base to said heat transfer device.

9. (Currently amended): A heat transfer device comprising:

a heat transfer base for contacting with a heat producing component;

fins protruding from said heat transfer base for conducting heat from said heat transfer base;

a fan for transferring air through said fins; and

a fan-securing device releaseably secured to said heat transfer base, said fan-securing device comprising:

  a body and compression tabs wherein said tabs come in contact with said fan thereby securing said fan in said fan-securing device;

  a spring for aiding in removal of said fan; and

  a recessed receiver member in said body for receiving said spring directly under said fan.

10. (Original): The heat transfer device of claim 9, wherein said fan-securing device is made of plastic.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended): The heat transfer device of ~~claim 11~~ claim 9, wherein said fan-securing device further comprises:

a spring retaining clip on a side of said recessed receiver member for retaining said spring in said recessed receiver member.

13. (Original): The heat transfer device of claim 9, wherein said fan-securing device further comprises:

a wire guard for protecting fan wires from fan blades and sharp fin edges, said guard being integrally connected to said fan-securing device.

14. (Original): The heat transfer device of claim 13, wherein said wire guard comprises:

compression legs for securing said wires; and
tabs for releasing said compression legs.

15-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended): An assembly for cooling comprising a fan-securing device for securing a fan to a cylindrical heat sink having fins arranged in a cylindrical configuration, wherein said assembly allows for the rapid removal of the fan without disturbing a remainder of the assembly, said assembly comprising:

a cylindrical heat sink having fins arranged in a cylindrical configuration;
a base disposed inside said cylindrical heat sink for ~~releasably~~ releaseably receiving said fan and holding said fan at least partially inside said cylindrical heat sink;
a fastener for securing said base to said cylindrical heat sink; and
compression tabs for ~~releasably~~ releaseably securing said fan to said base.

27. (Previously presented): The assembly of claim 26, wherein said base is made of plastic.

28. (Previously presented): The assembly of claim 26, further comprising:

a spring; and
a recessed receiver member in said base for receiving said spring directly under the fan for aiding in discharge.

29. (Previously presented): The assembly of claim 28, further comprising:

a spring retaining clip on a side of said recessed receiver member for retaining said spring in said recessed receiver member.

30. (Previously presented): The assembly of claim 26, further comprising:

an slot in said fins of said cylindrical heat sink;

a wire guard for protecting fan wires from fan blades and sharp fin edges, said guard being integrally connected to said base and extending through said slot.

31. (Previously presented): The assembly of claim 30, wherein said wire guard comprises:

compression legs for securing said wires; and

tabs for releasing said compression legs.

32. (Currently amended): The assembly of claim 26, wherein said fastener comprises ~~a hole through which~~ a screw that engages a corresponding hole in said fan-securing device and secures said base to said heat transfer device.

33. (Currently amended): An assembly for cooling comprising a fan-securing device for securing a fan to a heat transfer device that allows for the rapid removal of the fan without disturbing a remainder of the assembly, said fan-securing device comprising:

a base having an axis along which said fan is inserted into said base; a fastener for securing said base to said heat transfer device; and

compression tabs for securing said fan to said base;

wherein said compression tabs extend upward from said base parallel to said axis and are flexible so as to be moved laterally with respect to said axis to permit said fan to be received in said base; and

wherein said tabs ~~engage~~ secure sides of said fan by moving in a direction substantially normal to said axis.

34. (Previously presented): The assembly of claim 33, further comprising a groove or recess in said fan which is engaged by said compression tabs.

35. (Previously presented): The assembly of claim 33, wherein said heat transfer device is a heat sink.

36. (Previously presented): The assembly of claim 33, wherein said base is made of plastic.

37. (Previously presented): The assembly of claim 33, further comprising:

a spring; and

a recessed receiver member in said base for receiving said spring directly under the fan for aiding in discharge.

38. (Previously presented) The assembly of claim 37, further comprising:

a spring retaining clip on a side of said recessed receiver member for retaining said spring in said recessed receiver member.

39. (Previously presented): The assembly of claim 33, further comprising:

a wire guard for protecting fan wires from fan blades and sharp fin edges, said guard being integrally connected to said base.

40. (Previously presented): The assembly of claim 39, wherein said wire guard comprises:

compression legs for securing said wires; and tabs for releasing said compression legs.

41. (Currently amended): The assembly of claim 33, wherein said fastener comprises ~~a hole through which~~ a screw that engages a corresponding hole in said fan-securing device and secures said base to said heat transfer device.

42. (Currently amended): A method of securing a fan to a heat transfer device that allows for the rapid removal of the fan without disturbing a remainder of the heat transfer device, said method comprising:

~~releasably~~ releaseably securing a base to said heat transfer device such that said base can be released from said heat transfer device; ~~and~~

~~releasably~~ releaseably securing said fan to said base;

facilitating release of said fan from said base with a spring disposed in a recessed portion of said base.

43. (Currently amended): The method of claim 42, wherein said ~~releasably~~ releaseably securing said fan to said base comprises securing said fan to said base with compression tabs of said base.

44. (Canceled)

45. (Canceled)

46. (Currently amended): ~~The method of claim 45,~~ A method of cooling with a fan-securing device and fan disposed in a cylindrical heat sink having fins arranged in a cylindrical configuration, wherein said method comprises:

securing a base inside said cylindrical heat sink, said base configured for releaseably receiving said fan; and

releaseably securing said fan in said base such that said fan is at least partially inside said cylindrical heat sink, wherein said ~~releasably~~ releaseably securing said fan to said base comprises securing said fan to said base with compression tabs of said base.

47. (Currently amended): ~~The method of claim 45, further comprising~~ A method of cooling with a fan-securing device and fan disposed in a cylindrical heat sink having fins arranged in a cylindrical configuration, wherein said method comprises:

securing a base inside said cylindrical heat sink, said base configured for releaseably receiving said fan;

releaseably securing said fan in said base such that said fan is at least partially inside said cylindrical heat sink; and

protecting fan wires from fan blades and sharp fin edges with a wire guard integrally connected to said base and extending through a slot in said fins of said cylindrical heat sink.

48. (Currently Amended): A method of cooling using an assembly that includes a fan-securing device for securing a fan to a heat transfer device, wherein said method allows for rapid removal of the fan without disturbing a remainder of the assembly, said method comprising:

deflecting flexible compression tabs of ~~said~~ a base of said fan-securing device which extend upward in a direction substantially parallel to direction in which said fan is inserted into said base;

disposing said fan in said base by moving said fan past said deflected compression tabs; and

~~engaging~~ securing sides of said fan with said compression tabs by movement of said compression tabs in a direction substantially normal to said axis.

49. (Previously presented): The method of claim 48, wherein said engaging is performed by engaging a groove or recess in said fan with said compression tabs.